

TBPE / CICCOP

International Professional Engineering Licensure Models: Texas and Spain

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Presenters

- **For Texas Board of Professional Engineers (TBPE):**

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Summary

- This presentation will describe the current licensure process for professional engineers in each jurisdiction.
- The intended audience is:
 - Spanish engineers interested in licensure in Texas and
 - American engineers (licensed in Texas) interested in licensure in Spain.

Welcome



- Lance Kinney, PhD., P.E.
- Executive Director
- Lance.Kinney@engineers.texas.gov

Webinar Info

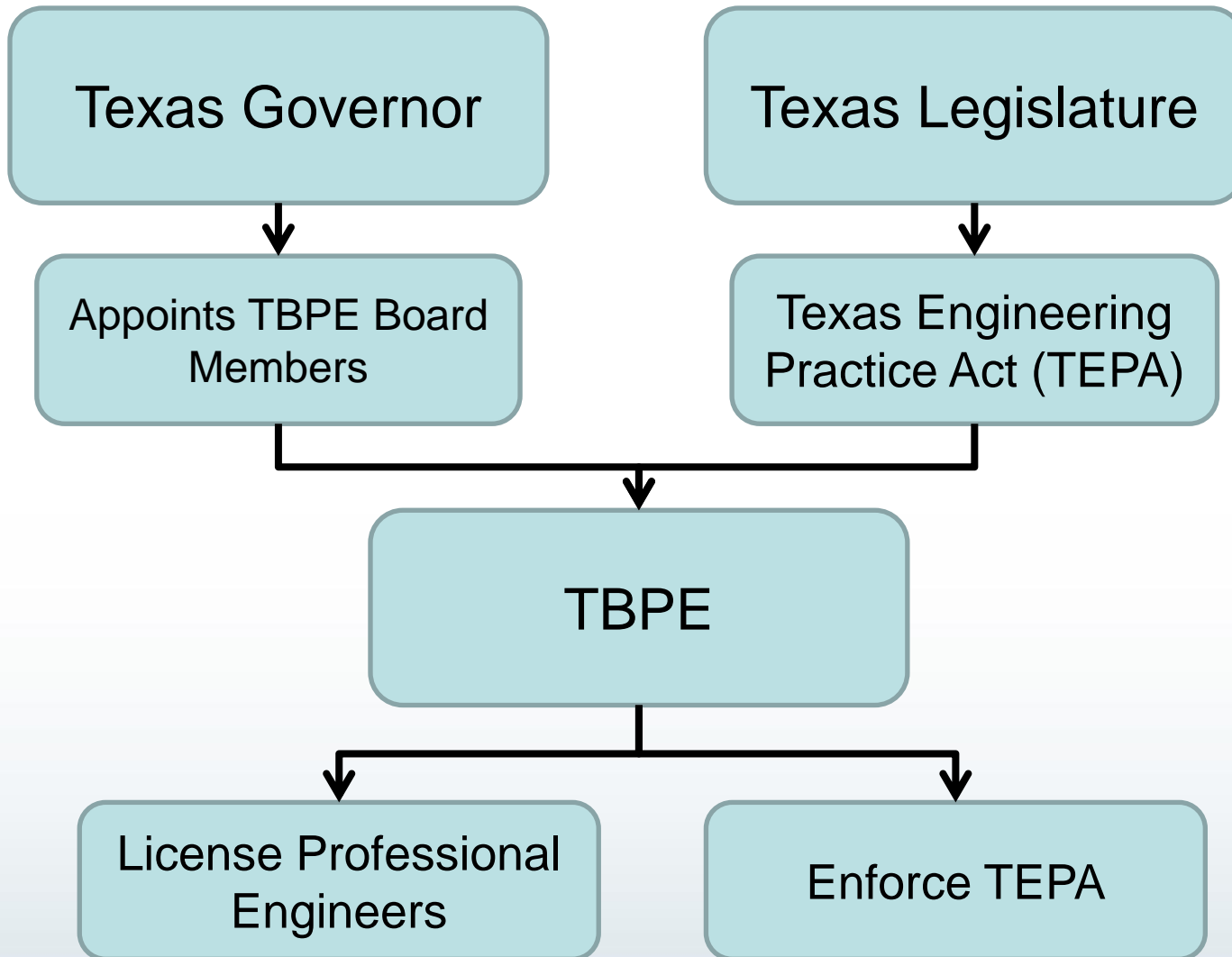
- Webinar audio can be through your computer speakers or through the phone.
- All attendees will be in Listen-only mode.
- During the presentation, use the Question feature in the webinar software, not the chat feature or the hand raising feature.
- If there are questions, not addressed, please email the presenters.
- PDFs of the slides (both English and Spanish) are available on the TBPE website (<http://engineers.texas.gov>)

Agenda

- Overview of Texas Board of Professional Engineers
- Reasons to Become Licensed in Texas
- Licensure Process
- Professional Services Procurement Act

History of TBPE

- Created by Texas Legislature (45R) in 1937
- Established a Board to regulate the practice of engineering through:
 - Licensing Engineers
 - Rules of Practice
 - Enforcement



OTHER NON-GOVERNMENTAL ENGINEERING ORGANIZATIONS

ABET – Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology - evaluates university programs.

ASCE – American Society of Civil Engineers

NCEES – National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying – Develops Examinations

NSPE – National Society of Professional Engineers

TBPE

Nine Members - Appointed by Governor

- 6 Licensed Professional Engineers
- 3 Public Members
- Standard term is 6 years

TBPE BOARD

- Daniel O. Wong, PhD, PE
 - Chairman - Houston
- Lamberto “Bobby” Balli, PE
 - San Antonio
- Edward Summers, PhD (public member) – Austin
- James Greer, PE - Dallas
- Elvira Reyna (public member)
 - Denton County
- Sockalingham “Sam” Kannappan, PE – Baytown
- Sina K. Nejad, PhD, PE, PEng
 - Beaumont
- Kyle Womack, PE - Midland
- Vacancy (public member)

TBPE STAFF

31 Staff members, Austin

Lance Kinney, PhD, PE - Executive Director

David Howell, PE – Deputy Executive Director

CW Clark, PE - Compliance & Enforcement

Robert Opiela, PE - Licensing

Jeff Mutscher - Finance

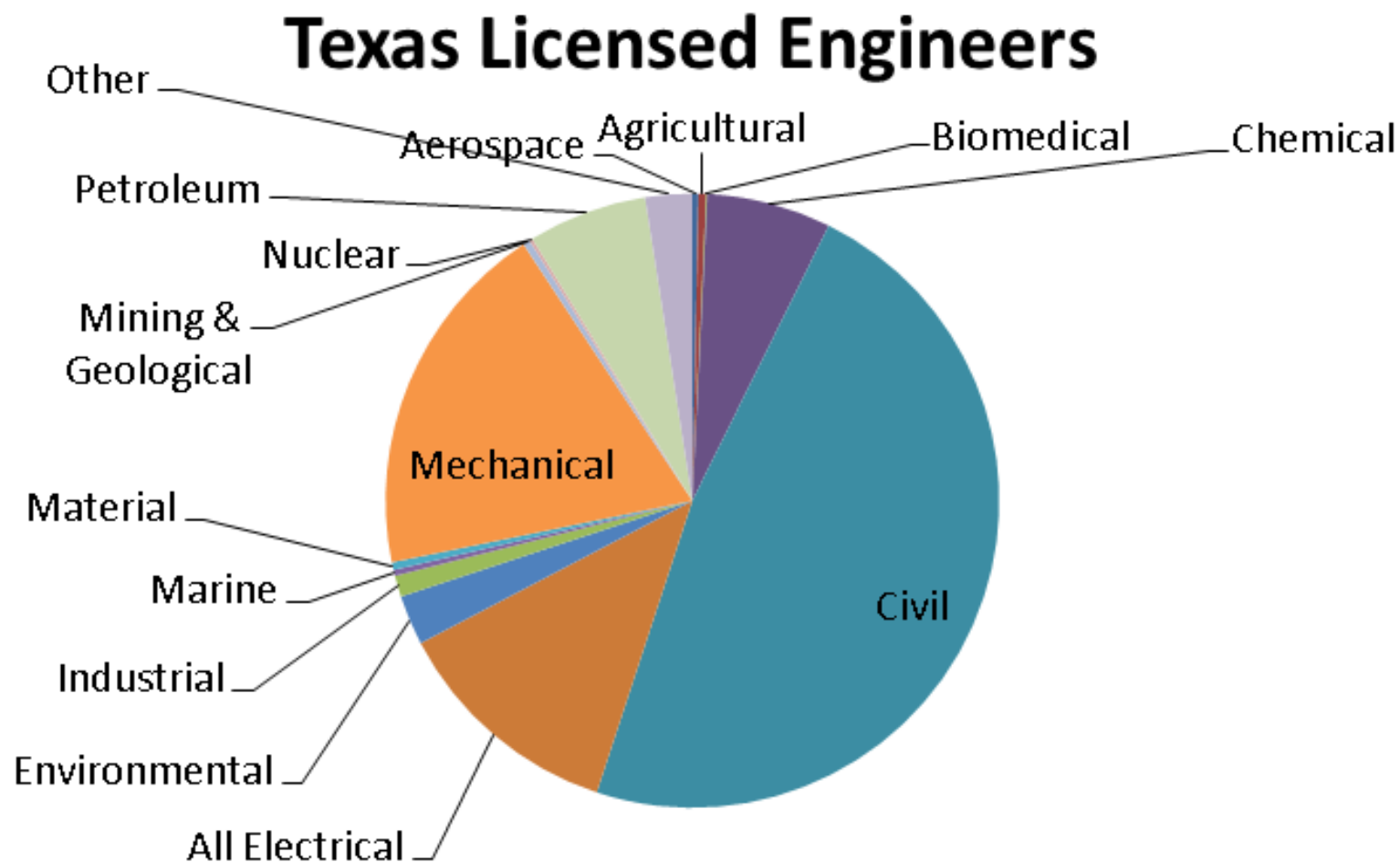
Janet Sobieski - Information Technology

Reasons to Become Licensed in Texas

- Serves as a protection of public health, safety, and welfare.
- It shows you have accomplished a recognized standard.
- Makes you equal with other professionals. Many other professions require that you are licensed to practice.

Reasons to Become Licensed in Texas

- Law - Only Licensed Engineers Can Offer Services to the General Public
- Required for Some Positions
 - Public Works
 - Most Civil Engineering
- Licensure in U.S. is required in each state
- “Portable” credential you can keep throughout your career.



Requirements for Licensure

- Education
- Experience
- Examinations

Standard Licensure Process Flow

- 4 Year Degree
- FE Exam
- Work Experience
- Apply for licensure and permission to take PE Exam
- PE Exam
- PE License

Education

- EAC/ABET Accredited Engineering Programs (www.abet.org)
- Non-EAC/ABET Programs:
 - Non-ABET Engineering Degrees
 - Engineering Technology
 - Related Science degrees (Math, Physics, Chemistry, etc.)
- Foreign engineering degrees may be acceptable – degree evaluation is required.

Foreign Education

- Foreign engineering degrees can be acceptable if:
 - The degree was conferred by a program covered under the Washington Accord (Washingtonaccord.org)
 - Spain is currently not a signatory to the Washington Accord
 - Degree was deemed equivalent to a US degree by one of the TBPE-approved evaluation companies (http://engineers.texas.gov/lic_eval_toefl.htm)
 - Consejo de Acreditacion de la Enseñanza de la Ingeniería, Mexico
 - Degree was used for P.Eng. License in Canada

Experience

- 4 Years of creditable engineering work with ABET Accredited engineering Degree
- 8 Years with Non-Accredited Degree or qualifying Related Science degree
- Experience credit for Advanced Engineering Degrees from ABET accredited programs
- Foreign engineering experience may be acceptable.

Foreign Experience

- Engineering experience gained outside the US can be creditable
 - It must meet all the rule requirements for qualifying experience
 - At least two years of the total amount of experience must be obtained in the US or working with US codes and standards
 - It must be supported by professional references from US licensed PEs when applying

Examinations

- Fundamentals of Engineering (FE)
 - After university
 - Broad engineering topics
- Principles & Practices of Engineering (PE)
 - After engineering experience
 - Specific to area of engineering practice
- Administered by NCEES

Application

- Supplementary Experience Records
- References
 - Standard Application - at least 3 PEs
- Ethics Evaluation
- Criminal History Record Check (CHRC)
- Fee (\$80)

Criminal History Record Checks

- Statute changed in 2013 to Require fingerprinting for All Active license 1st renewal and new applicants after January 2014
- FAQ and detailed Instructions on website:
<http://engineers.texas.gov/recordcheck.html>
- Runs in parallel with application review, but must be completed and reviewed before approval.

Supplementary Experience Record (SER)

- Detailed description of engineering work
- Project record or diary
- Experience can be obtained in Texas, other States, or Overseas
- Internships, Co-ops may be creditable if More than Three Months in Duration

PE References

- 3 PE References Required for your Work Experience
- At least 1 PE Reference for each Job
 - Covering at least the minimum experience required (i.e. 4 yrs)
- Fill out reference statement form - Must address Personal Character, Readiness for Licensure and vouch for the Engineering Experience
- Can be licensed in any US state
- Some References may be licensed in other countries

International Temporary License

- Currently only available for engineers from Australia, Canada and Mexico
- Established by negotiated and signed international agreement, codified into Texas rules
- Specific education and experience requirements
- Exams not required
- Full license, but is only good for a maximum of 3 years.

Professional Services Procurement Act (PSPA)

- Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) for engineering on **public projects**
- Responsibilities of Professional Engineers
- Responsibilities of Public Officials in RFQ / RFP process

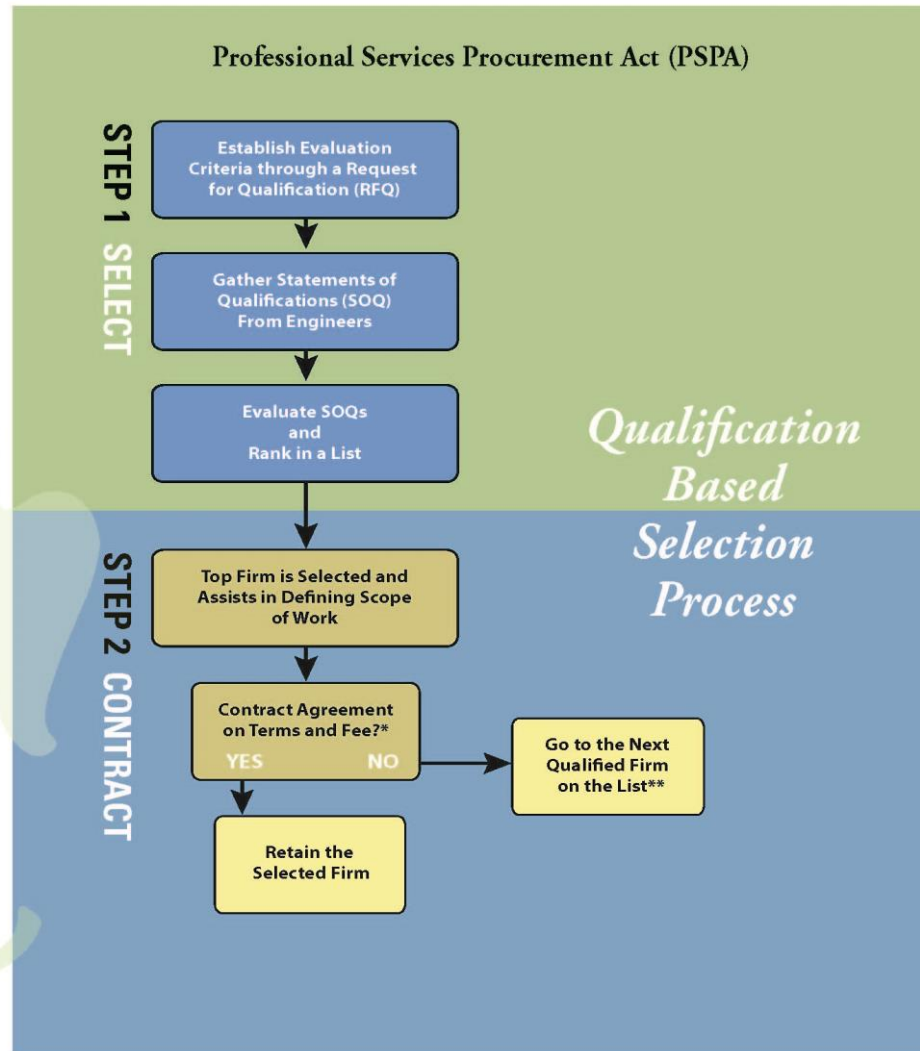
Outreach Publication

Government

*What is the Professional Services
Procurement Act?*

Flowchart to assist building and
code compliance officials.





*At no time should the fee proposal of one firm be compared to the fee of another. Agreement on fee should be based on the merits and information of one firm at a time.

**Negotiation with only one company or firm at a time may take place to be in compliance with TAC 2254.004 (b).

Outreach Publication

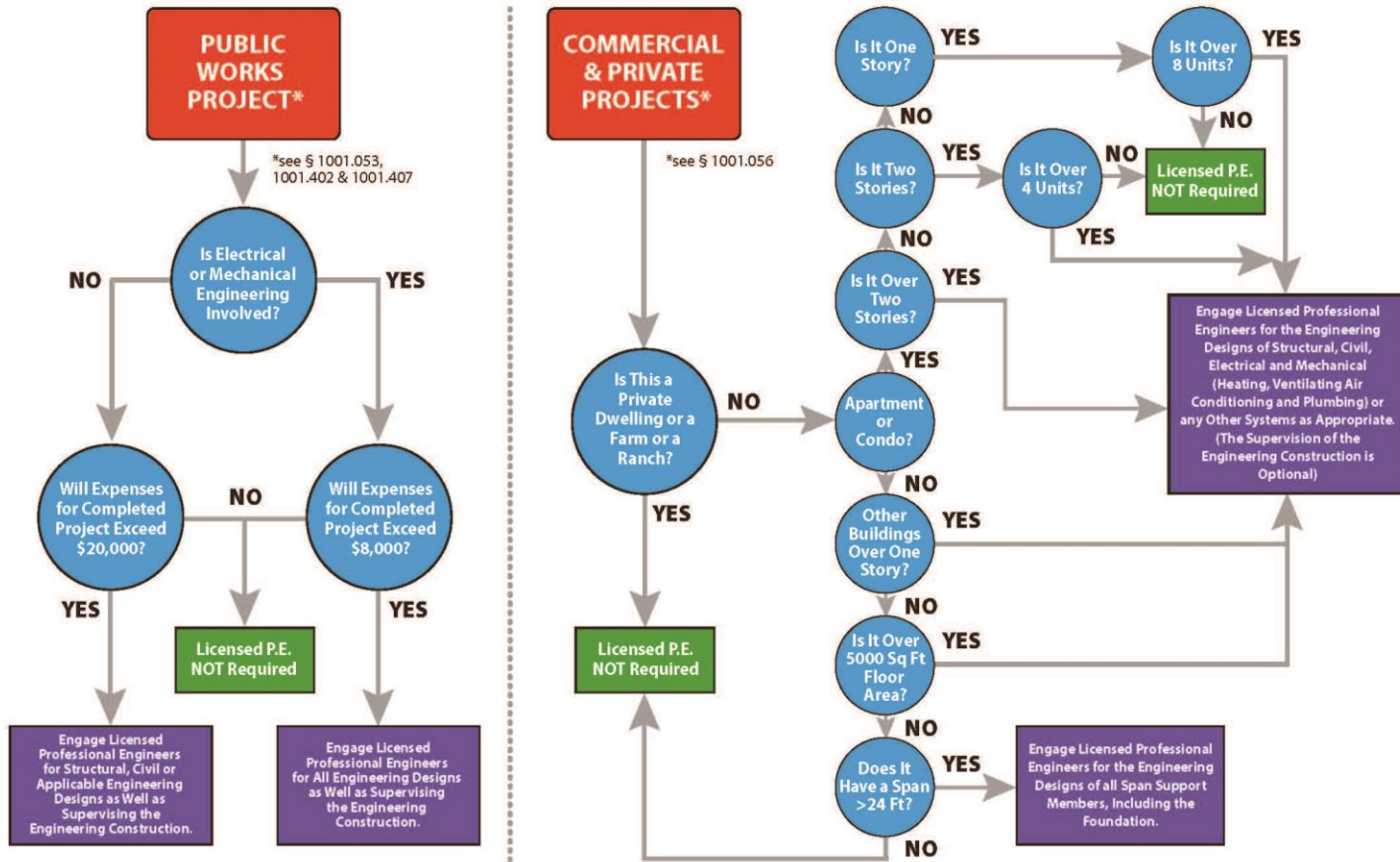
Government

*When is a Professional Engineer
required on a project?*

Flowchart to assist building and
Code compliance officials.



When is a Professional Engineer required on a project?



This flowchart is intended for guidance purposes only and the Texas Engineering Practice Act and Rules govern final interpretation. Local codes and ordinances may be more restrictive as long as not in conflict with the Texas Engineering Practice Act and Rules.

Visit <http://engineers.texas.gov/downloads.htm> for a copy of the Texas Engineering Practice Act and Board Rules and download this diagram.

Outreach Publications

Applicants






*How to Become a
Licensed P.E.*

*Benefits of Being a
Professional Engineer.*



Website and Social Media

<http://engineers.texas.gov>

- Facebook: Texas Board of Professional Engineers 
- Twitter: TBPE_Exec 
- LinkedIn: Texas Board of Professional Engineers 
- RSS Feed on our website: <http://engineers.texas.gov> 
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCm0YTnjR3StveBxWhCT4MiA> 

Thank You

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<http://engineers.texas.gov/outreachsurvey>